

Remarks

Claims 1-38 are pending in this application.

The following changes are proposed: 1) amendment of claims 1-4, 15, 29, 31 and 34, and cancelation of claims 30 and 32.

While claims 1, 2, 6, 7, 15-18, 29, 30 and 35 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Komiya et al. (US 3,714,522), claims 8, 9, 23, 24, 36 and 37 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Komiya et al. (US 3,714,522); claim 13 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Komiya et al. (US 3,714,522) in view of Meynants (US 7,268,815); and claims 10 and 38 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Komiya et al. (US 3,714,522) in view of Maloney (US 6,323,985),

Claims 3-5 and 31-34 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form and claims 19-22 and 25-28 were allowed.

The pending, rejected claims should be deemed allowable for the reasons of record: claims 1, 15, and 29 have been amended to include subject matter based on original claim 4.

Other minor changes have been made to modify dependencies based on the amendments to the independent claims.

In summary, the claims should be deemed allowable for the reasons of record.

Application No.: 10/518,963
Amendment dated: September 24, 2008
Reply to Office Action of June 12, 2008
Attorney Docket No.: 0154.0312US1

It is believed that the present application is in condition for allowance. A Notice of Allowance is respectfully solicited. Should any questions arise, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

By _____/grant houston/
J. Grant Houston
Registration No.: 35,900
Tel.: 781 863 9991
Fax: 781 863 9931

Lexington, Massachusetts 02421
Date: September 24, 2008